

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

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OPINION 546

Designation under the Plenary Powers of a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera), and validation under the same Powers of the emendation of the specific name of the species so designated

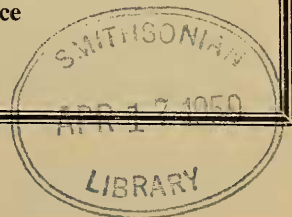
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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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OPINION 546

DESIGNATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR THE GENUS "STAPHYLINUS" LINNAEUS, 1758 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER COLEOPTERA) AND VALIDATION UNDER THE SAME POWERS OF THE EMENDATION OF THE SPECIFIC NAME OF THE SPECIES SO DESIGNATED

RULING :—(1) The following action is hereby taken under the Plenary Powers :—

- (a) The emendation to *erythropterus* of the specific name *erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus*, is hereby validated.
- (b) All selections of type species for the nominal genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside and the nominal species *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby designated as the type species of the above genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (gender : masculine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers in (1)(b) above : *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758) (Name No. 1338) ;
- (b) *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819 (gender : masculine) (type species, by original designation : *Staphylinus maxillosus* Linnaeus, 1758) (Name No. 1339).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *erythropterus* (emend. under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus* (specific name of type species of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758) (Name No. 1611) ;
- (b) *maxillosus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus maxillosus* (specific name of type species of *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819) (Name No. 1612).

(4) The under-mentioned generic names, each of which is an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Saphylinus* Gistel, 1856 (Name No. 1241) ;
- (b) *Slaphylinus* Fairmaire & Germain, 1861 (Name No. 1242) ;
- (c) *Staphhylinus* Reed, 1874 (Name No. 1243) ;
- (d) *Staphilinus* Brahm, 1790 (Name No. 1244) ;
- (e) *Staphilynus* Schaeffer, 1779 (Name No. 1245) ;
- (f) *Staphlinus* Rau, 1944 (Name No. 1246) ;

- (g) *Staphylinius* Redtenbacher, 1857 (Name No. 1247) ;
- (h) *Staphylinus* Perty, 1830 (Name No. 1248) ;
- (i) *Staphylinus* Dauguet, 1946 (Name No. 1249) ;
- (j) *Stapilinus* Berkenhout, 1795 (Name No. 1250) ;
- (k) *Staphylinus* Thomson, 1860 (Name No. 1251) ;
- (l) *Staphylinus* Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1856 (Name No. 1252) ;
- (m) *Staphylinus* Zetterstedt, 1828 (Name No. 1253).

(5) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 577 :—

erythropterus Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus* (rejected under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above as an Invalid Original Spelling for *erythropterus*).

(6) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 260 :—

STAPHYLINIDAE (correction of STAPHYLINI) Latreille, [1803–1804] (type genus : *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758)

(7) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 291 :—

STAPHYLINI Latreille, [1803–1804] (type genus : *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758) (an Invalid Original Spelling for STAPHYLINIDAE).

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The subject dealt with in the present *Opinion* was first formally brought to the notice of the Office of the Commission in a letter dated 22nd November 1949 with which Mr. N. D. Riley, at that time Secretary to the Royal Entomological Society of London, transmitted a copy of Part 9 of the Society's publication *The Generic Names of British Insects* in which a proposal was made that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should be asked to use its Plenary Powers to designate the nominal species *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera).¹ It was not possible for any progress to be made with this case at that time but in the autumn of 1954 consultations in regard to this and to the other cases covered by Mr. Riley's letter of 22nd November 1949 took place between Mr. Francis Hemming, Secretary to the Commission, Mr. C. E. Tottenham, one of the applicants who had participated in preparing the proposals set out in Part 9 of the work *The Generic Names of British Insects* and Mr. J. Balfour-Browne, who by that time had become the Editor of the publications of the Royal Entomological Society. As the result of these discussions it was agreed that a revised application in regard to this case should be drawn up by Mr. C. E. Tottenham, and that in this revised document account should be taken of such matters involved in the present case as were affected by decisions taken by the International Congresses of Zoology held in Paris in 1948 and at

¹ Part 9 of the work *The Generic Names of British Insects* was published on 30th August 1949 (*Gen. Names Brit. Ins.* (9) : 344-466).

Copenhagen in 1953. In particular, it was agreed that, as it was desired by Mr. Tottenham and his colleagues that the Commission should approve the emendation to *erythropterus* of the specific name *erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, for the species originally established with the name *Staphylinus erythropterus* which it was now proposed should be designated as the type species of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, it would be necessary under the relevant decision of the Copenhagen Congress that an express request for the use of the Plenary Powers for this purpose should be included in the application to be submitted to the Commission. The discussions described above culminated on 14th January 1957 when Mr. Tottenham submitted the following application to the Commission :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers (a) to designate a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for the genus "Staphylinus" Linnaeus, 1758, and (b) to validate the emendation to "erythropterus" of the specific name of the nominal species "Staphylinus erythropterus" Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera)

By C. E. TOTTENHAM, M.A.
(Zoological Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge)

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers to prevent the very serious confusion and name-changing which would result from the acceptance as the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera) of the species which is at present the type species under the Rules. The proposal that the Commission should be asked to take action in this sense was first put forward in a paper which I prepared for the Coleoptera Sub-Committee of the Committee on Generic Nomenclature, a body set up by the Royal Entomological Society of London to supervise the preparation of the work entitled *The Generic Names of British Insects* which was then in process of publication by the Society. The proposal so drawn up was supported by the Coleoptera Sub-Committee, the other members of which were at that time: H. E. Andrewes; W. A. F. Balfour-Browne; K. G. Blair; M. Cameron. These proposals were embodied by the Sub-Committee in its Third Report which in turn was submitted to, and approved by, the Committee on Generic Nomenclature, by whom it was submitted to the Royal Entomological Society in its Ninth Report. These documents were approved by the Council for transmission to the International Commission and were published as Part 9 of the work referred to above on 30th August 1949 (*Gen. Names Brit. Ins.* (9) : 343–466). Finally, on 22nd December 1949, Mr. N. D. Riley, then Secretary to the Society, transmitted the foregoing publication to the International Commission. Various circumstances prevented until now the preparation of a formal application to the International Commission on this subject. The facts of this case are set out in the following paragraphs.

2. The genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 421) was established with nineteen included species but without a designated type species. Of the included species two only enter into the present case, namely: (1) *Staphylinus maxillosus* Linnaeus, 1758 (: 421); (2) *Staphylinus erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758 (: 422).

3. Before entering upon a discussion of the type species of the foregoing genus, there is one preliminary matter which requires to be mentioned. This is the spelling to be used for the specific name of the second of the two nominal

species cited above. As there stated, that specific name was spelled "erythropterus" by Linnaeus in 1758 but it was quickly recognised that this was a mistake for "erythropteris", to which form it was emended by Müller (O.F.) in 1764 (*Fauna Ins. fridrichsdal.* : 23). This emendation was accepted by subsequent workers, the name being almost universally spelled in this way. After the adoption of the present *Règles* by the Berlin Congress in 1901 it is probable that under Article 19 (the Article relating to the emendation of names) the emendation of the defective spelling *erythropterus* to *erythropteris* was perfectly valid but under the more rigid provisions substituted for that Article by the Copenhagen Congress in 1953 it is no longer so. That Congress recognised, however, that in the interest of stability long-established emendations ought to be protected from change in those cases where under the Rules then adopted they were technically invalid. The means provided by that Congress to secure that end requires several years in order to become effective and is therefore inappropriate in a case such as the present where an immediate decision is required as part of the settlement of some larger question. I recommend therefore that in this, as in certain similar, recent, cases the required relief should be provided by the Commission by the exercise of its Plenary Powers.

4. We may turn to consider the position as regards the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus. Here we find that historically this matter was determined in 1819 (*Entomologist's useful Compendium* : 172) when Samouelle (i) designated *Staphylinus erythropterus* Linnaeus to be the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, and (ii) established the nominal genus *Creophilus* Samouelle with *Staphylinus maxillosus* Linnaeus as type species by original designation. This disposition of these species has been followed by all subsequent authors and represents the practice currently in force.

5. Unfortunately, as is now seen, the decision in the Commission's *Opinion* 11 to recognise the *Tableau Méthodique* annexed to Latreille's *Considerations générales sur l'Ordre naturel des Animaux composant les Classes des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes* as containing valid selections of type species for the genera there enumerated would have the most disastrous consequences if applied in the present case. For in this work (: 427) Latreille selected *Staphylinus maxillosus* Linnaeus to be the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus. Thus under the normal provisions of the *Règles* (i) the name *Staphylinus* Linnaeus would need to be transferred to the genus which for nearly 140 years has been known by the name *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819, (ii) the name *Creophilus* Samouelle would disappear as a junior objective synonym of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, and (iii) the genus historically known as *Staphylinus* Linnaeus would need to be known either by the name *Dinothenarus* Thomson, 1858 (as stated by Tottenham, 1939, *Gen. Names Brit. Ins.* : 444) or *Platydracus* Thomson, 1858 (as stated by Blackwelder, 1952, *Bull. U.S. nat. Mus.* **200** : 312, 357), two names published by Thomson in the same paper. At present each of these names is in use for a subgenus of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, distinct from the genus currently treated as the nominate subgenus. Both the genus *Staphylinus* (as currently understood) and the genus *Creophilus* are genera of world-wide distribution, and the former is a very large genus upon which there is a considerable volume of literature. It is not necessary to labour the objections to such a violent disturbance of current nomenclatorial practice as that described above. In addition, it may, however, be noted that such a change in the interpretation of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus would cause serious confusion at the family-group-name level, for the genus *Creophilus* (i.e. the genus which would become the genus *Staphylinus*) is at present placed in the sub-

tribe XANTHOPYGI which would become the nominate sub-tribe STAPHYLINI, while some other name would have to be found for the sub-tribe known today as STAPHYLINI. It is to avoid these disastrous developments that I now ask the International Commission to use its Plenary Powers to set aside all selections of type species for the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, made prior to the Ruling now asked for and, having done so, to designate under the same Powers the nominal species *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of the foregoing genus.

6. The consequential action required under the "Completeness of Opinions" Rule is : (1) the addition to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* of the name *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819 ; (2) the addition to the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* of the specific name of the type species of the above genus and of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus ; (3) the addition to the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* of the under-mentioned Erroneous Subsequent Spellings for *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 ; (4) the addition to the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* of the name STAPHYLINIDAE (correction of STAPHYLINI) Latreille, [1803–1804] (*Hist. nat. Crust. Ins.* 9 : 172) (first published in correct form as STAPHYLINIDAE by Westwood in 1838, *Introd. mod. Class. Ins.* 1 : 162) ; and (5) the addition to the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* of the name STAPHYLINI Latreille, [1803–1804] (an Erroneous Original Spelling for STAPHYLINIDAE).

Erroneous Subsequent Spellings of "Staphylinus" Linnaeus, 1758, proposed to be placed on the "Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology"

Staphilynus Schaeffer, 1779, *Icon. Ins.* 3 : index

Staphilinus Brahm, 1790, *Insektenkalender f. Samml. u. Oekonomen*, Pt. 1 : xxviii

Stapilinus Berkenhout, 1795, *Syn. nat. Hist. Brit.* (ed. 3) 1 : 318

Stophylinus Zetterstedt (J.W.), 1828, *Faun. Ins. lapp.* (1) : 45

Staphylinns Perty, 1830, *Delectus Anim. artic.* . . . : 4

Saphylinus Gistel, 1856, *Die Mysterien der europ. Insectenwelt* : 10

Stapyhlinus Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1856, *Faun. ent. franç.* 1 : 377

Staphylinius Redtenbacher, 1857, *Fauna austriac.* (ed. 2) : 133

Staphylinus Thomson, 1860, *Skand. Col.* 2 : 135

Slaphylinus Fairmaire & Germain, 1861, *Ann. Soc. ent. France* (4) 1 : 431

Staphhylinus Reed, 1874, *Anal. Univ. Chile* 45 : 353

Staphlinus Rau, 1944, *Ent. News* 55 : 15

Staphytinus Dauguet, 1946, *L'Entomologiste* 2 : 238

7. For the reasons set forth above I ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

(1) to use its Plenary Powers :—

(a) to validate the emendation to *erythropterus* of the specific name

- erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus* ;
- (b) to set aside all selections of type species for the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, made prior to the Ruling now asked for and having done so, to designate the nominal species *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of the foregoing genus ;
- (2) to place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—
- (a) *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758 (gender : masculine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers in (1)(b) above : *Staphylinus erythropterus* (emend. under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (b) *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819 (gender : masculine) (type species, by original designation : *Staphylinus maxillosus* Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (3) to place the under-mentioned specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
- (a) *erythropterus* (emend. under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus* (specific name of type species of *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (b) *maxillosus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus maxillosus* (specific name of type species of *Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819) ;
- (4) to place the thirteen Erroneous Subsequent Spellings for *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, specified in paragraph 6 above on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (5) to place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* :—
- erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus* (an Original Spelling rejected under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a) above in favour of the emendation *erythropterus*) ;
- (6) to place the under-mentioned family-group name on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—
- STAPHYLINIDAE (correction of STAPHYLINII) Latreille, [1803–1804] (type genus : *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758) (first published in correct form as STAPHYLINIDAE by Westwood, 1838) ;
- (7) to place the under-mentioned family-group name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—
- STAPHYLINII Latreille, [1803–1804] (type genus : *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758) (an Invalid Original Spelling for STAPHYLINIDAE).

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : In 1947 it became known that the Royal Entomological Society of London were contemplating transmitting to the International Commission proposals in regard to the generic and specific

names for certain of the British species of the family STAPHYLINIDAE (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera) then in process of being drawn up in connection with the preparation of the Society's work *The Generic Names of British Insects*. It was thereupon decided to take note of the foregoing situation by allotting to this subject the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 242. When in 1949 the proposals in question were actually received from the Royal Entomological Society the above Registered Number was retained for the question of the species to be accepted as the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, other Registered Numbers being assigned to the remaining cases relating to Staphylinid nomenclature then received.

3. Support for the present application received prior to its publication : At the time when the present application was prepared in 1949 the following specialists, in addition to Mr. Tottenham, were serving as members of the Coleoptera Sub-Committee of the Royal Entomological Society's Committee on Generic Nomenclature and took part in the preparation and submission of the recommendations then formulated:—H. E. Andrewes ; W. A. F. Balfour-Browne ; K. G. Blair ; M. Cameron.

4. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 16th January 1957 and was published on 29th March of that year in Double-Part 2/3 of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Tottenham, 1957, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **13** : 84–88).

5. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51–56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 29th March 1957 (a) in Double-Part 2/3 of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Mr. Tottenham's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications and to seven entomological serials in Europe and America.

6. Support for the whole of the present application received from Ian Moore : Shortly after the close of the Prescribed Six-Month Waiting Period and after the opening of the Prescribed Voting Period for this case (paragraph 9 below) Mr. Ian Moore (*El Cajon, California, U.S.A.*), a specialist in this group, addressed on 13th December 1957 the following communication in which he indicated his support for the proposals submitted by Mr. Tottenham in this case :—

A note appeared in the *Pan-Pacific Entomologist* for April, 1957 (**33** : 85), inviting comment on use of the Plenary Powers in regard to *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, designation of *erythropterus* (emend. of *erythropterus*) Linnaeus, 1758, as type species.

This note is just to say that as one who has studied the group for several years, I believe the proposed action would be quite desirable. It would result in retention of the name of this genus (the type genus of the family) in its customary sense.

7. No objection to the proposals relating to the designation of a type species for the genus "Staphylinus" Linnaeus, 1758 : The publication of the present application and the issue of Public Notices in regard thereto elicited no objection from any source to the proposed use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of

designating the species specified in the application to be the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758.

8. Objection to the proposed use of the Plenary Powers for validating the emendation of the specific name of the species proposed to be designated as the type species of the genus "Staphylinus" Linnaeus, 1758, received from E. M. Hering : On 23rd April 1957 there was received in the Office of the Commission the following statement from Professor Dr. E. M. Hering (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*), in which he expressed his objection to the validation of the widely used emendation *erythropterus* of the defective form *erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Staphylinus*) in which the name of the species now proposed to be designated as the type species of the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus was originally published (Hering, 1957, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 13 : 264)²:—

Es war ein begrüßenswerter Fortschritt, als die "Copenhagen Decisions" im Gegensatz zu der nicht so strengen Formulierung der *Règles* die Möglichkeiten der Emendation zoologischer Namen noch stärker eingeschränkt hatten. Besonders wichtig war dabei der Paragraph 71, der in (1)(a)(I) festlegte, dass ein Irrtum der Transliteration in das lateinische Alphabet kein Recht gibt, die Original-Schreibweise eines Namens zu ändern. In den Sitzungen des Colloquiums, die zur Formulierung der C. D. geführt haben, war immer wieder der richtige Gedanke angedeutet worden, dass philologische Erwägungen erst in zweiter Linie für Aenderungen der Schreibweise zoologischer Namen herangezogen werden sollten. Wie unbedenklich auf anderen Geistesgebieten in dieser Hinsicht vorgegangen wird, zeigt eine auch nur flüchtige Betrachtung der Bildung der allgemein anerkannten Termini in der Medizin.

Wollte jeder Spezialist auf seinem Gebiet die durch falsche Transcription oder Transliteration gebildeten Namen zur Genehmigung der Emendation der International Commission vorschlagen, so bliebe dieser zur Erledigung wichtiger Aufgaben überhaupt keine Zeit mehr, denn : die Zahl der falsch gebildeten Namen ist Legion ! Es kommt hinzu, dass in gewissen Fällen auch verschiedene Klassiker verschiedene Schreibweisen angewendet haben, und dass auch der Philologe manchmal mehr als eine Schreibweise als richtig anerkennen muss. Wie viele Namen, die aus dem Griechischen stammen, sind mit der Original-Endung "-on" beibehalten worden. Es erscheint nicht statthaft, von ihnen nun nur eine oder mehrere, wie *Theridion* zu *Theridium*, zu emendieren, während andere Namen mit der gleichen Endung unverändert bleiben. Dem sprachlich Gebildeten sehen die zahlreichen Namen mit der Endung "-pterix" ebenso abscheulich aus wie etwa "*erythropterus*". Wenn aber einige Spezialisten auf ihrem Gebiete Aenderungen herbeiführen lassen, die anderen nicht, kommt es in kurzer Zeit zu einem Wirrwarr, in dem sich niemand mehr zurechtfindet. Bleibt es beim strikten Verbot der Emendation, und ist die Kommission konsequent, braucht man nur die Original-Beschreibung nachzuschlagen, um zu wissen, wie ein Name richtig zu schreiben ist. Im anderen Falle muss die grosse, dauernd noch steigende Zahl der veröffentlichten *Opinions* durchgesehen werden, wenn man Sicherheit über eine Schreibweise haben will, das bedeutet eine grosse Erschwerung der wissenschaftlichen Arbeit. Durch solch eine

² A second case cited by Professor Dr. Hering at the same time—*Theridion* Walckenaer versus the emendation *Theridium*—has been dealt with by the Commission in its *Opinion* 517 (1958, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 19 : 45–110). In that case (unlike the present) a very large majority of specialists in the group concerned had expressed themselves as favouring the retention of the original spelling *Theridion*. The proposal in favour of the validation of the emendation *Theridium* was accordingly rejected by the Commission.

Durchlöcherung des Emendation-Verbotes gelangt die rein philologisch motivierte Emendation durch die Hintertür der Kommissions-Entscheidung wieder zu der Stellung, die ihr durch § 71 ff, der C.D. entzogen werden sollte. Die Kommission hat in früheren *Opinions* in 4 Jahrzehnten nur 12 Emendationen genehmigt, im Märzheft des *Bulletin* werden deren gleichzeitig schon 3 vorgeschlagen! Es sei der Kommission bei der Behandlung aller Emendation-Vorschläge zugerufen: "Landgraf, werde hart!"

Die International Commission möge aus den angezeigten Gründen die drei im Titel genannten Vorschläge ablehnen.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

9. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(57)54 : On 11th October 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(57)54) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating (a) to the designation of a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for the genus *Staphylinus* Linnaeus, 1758, and (b) to the validation of the emendation of the specific name of the species so proposed to be designated (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera) as set out in Points (1) to (7) in paragraph 7 (pp. 87-88) of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the Points numbered as above in paragraph 7 of the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

10. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 11th January 1958.

11. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)54, except the voting on the question of the validation of the emendation to "erythropterus" of the specific name "erythropterus" Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination "Staphylinus erythropterus" : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period the state of the voting on the proposals submitted with Voting Paper V.P.(57)54, other than the portion relating to the proposed validation under the Plenary Powers of the emendation to *erythropterus* of the specific name *erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus*, was as follows:—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-five (25) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis; Vokes; Bonnet; Mayr; Bradley (J.C.); do Amaral; Lemche; Hering; Dymond; Prantl; Riley; Esaki; Bodenheimer; Boschma; Hemming; Mertens; Hankó; Jaczewski; Miller; Stoll; Kühnelt; Cabrera; Sylvester-Bradley; Tortonese; Key;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

12. Particulars of the Voting on the request for the validation under the Plenary Powers of the emendation to "erythropterus" of the specific name "erythropterus" Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination "Staphylinus erythropterus" submitted in the second portion of Voting Paper V.P.(57)54 : At

the close of the Prescribed Voting Period the state of the voting on the request for the validation under the Plenary Powers of the emendation to *erythropterus* of the specific name *erythropterus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Staphylinus erythropterus*, which formed the second portion of the subject submitted with Voting Paper V.P.(57)54 was as follows :—

(a) *In favour of the validation under the Plenary Powers of the emendation to "erythropterus" of the specific name "erythropterus" Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination "Staphylinus erythropterus", twenty-four (24) votes :*

Holthuis ; Vokes ; Bonnet ; Mayr ; Bradley (J.C.) ; do Amaral ; Lemche ; Dymond ; Prantl ; Riley ; Esaki ; Bodenheimer ; Boschma ; Hemming ; Mertens ; Hankó ; Jaczewski ; Miller ; Stoll ; Kühnelt ; Cabrera ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Tortonese ; Key ;

(b) *Against the above proposal, one (1) vote :*

Hering ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

13. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 12th January 1958 Mr. Hemming Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)54, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast, were as set out in paragraphs 11 and 12 above and declaring that the proposal submitted with both portions of the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

14. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" : On 12th May 1958 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(57)54.

15. Original References for Generic and Specific Names : The following are the original references for the generic and specific names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

- Creophilus* Samouelle, 1819, *Entomologist's useful Compend.* : 172
erythropterus (emend. of *erythropterus*), *Staphylinus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 422
erythropterus, *Staphylinus*, Linnaeus, 1758 (an Invalid Original Spelling for *erythropterus*)
maxillosus, *Staphylinus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 421
Saphylinus Gistel, 1856, *Die Mysterien europ. Insectenwelt* : 10
Staphylinus Fairmaire & Germain, 1861, *Ann. Soc. ent. France* (4) 1 : 431
Staphylinus Reed, 1874, *Anal. Univ. Chile*, 45 : 353
Staphylinus Brahm, 1790, *Insektenkalender f. Samml. u. Oekonomen*, Pt. 1 : xxviii
Staphylinus Schaeffer, 1779, *Icon. Ins.* 3 : index
Staphylinus Rau, 1944, *Ent. News* 55 : 15
Staphylinus Redtenbacher, 1857, *Fauna austriac.* (ed. 2) : 133

Staphylinus Perty, 1830, *Delectus Anim. artic.* . . . : 4

Staphylinus Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 421

Staphytinus Dauguet, 1946, *L'Entomologiste* 2 : 238

Stapilinus Berkenhout, 1795, *Syn. nat. Hist. Brit.* (ed. 3) 1 : 318

Staphylinus Thomson, 1860, *Skand. Col.* 2 : 135

Staphylinus Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1856, *Faun. ent. franç.* 1 : 377

Staphylinus Zetterstedt, 1828, *Faun. Ins. lapp.* Pt. 1 : 45

16. References for Family-Group Names : The following are the original references for the family-group names placed by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* on the *Official List* or, as the case may be, on the *Official Index* of names for taxa belonging to the family-group category :—

STAPHYLINIDAE (correction of STAPHYLINI) Latreille, [1803–1804], *Hist. nat. Crust. Ins.* 9 : 172

STAPHYLINI Latreille, [1803–1804] (an Invalid Original Spelling for STAPHYLINIDAE)

17. Compliance with Prescribed Procedures : The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

18. “Opinion” Number : The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Five Hundred and Forty-Six (546) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twelfth day of May, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Eight.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING

